

RECOGNIZING GARY RALPH  
VANCOUR

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gary Ralph VanCour. For many years, Mr. VanCour has given his time and energy to promote his community and encourage its success.

Mr. VanCour has served for the past seven years as Co-Chair for the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration Committee, working diligently to promote the Commemoration and ensure that it continues to be an event of the highest quality. As a member of the War of 1812 Bicentennial Council: Lake Champlain Region, Mr. VanCour has worked with the Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau to promote heritage tourism for the region.

Mr. VanCour is also a retired Social Studies teacher and Department chair for the Beekmantown Central School District in New York State. He served as President of the New York State Social Studies Supervisory Association and is currently the Town of Beekmantown Historian. He is widely respected for his work in the field of education, having led efforts to align the Beekmantown Central School curriculum with New York State Social Studies Standards.

Mr. VanCour is a father and grandfather as well as a musician and community volunteer. Each of us can learn from his extraordinary dedication to serving his community.

CONGRATULATING BRADEN  
MUSCARELLO ON RECEIVING  
PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Braden Muscarello for being awarded a Kennedy-Lugar YES Abroad scholarship to study in Oman during the 2014–2015 academic year. Braden, a sophomore at William P. Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas, is one of only 65 American students selected to serve as YES Abroad youth ambassador to educate other countries about American culture.

As a YES Abroad student, Braden will help foster mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of Oman to promote friendly and peaceful relations. She will live with a host family in Muscat, attend a local high school and participate in activities with her Omani peers. Not only will she educate others about American culture, she'll also bring back her own experiences of Omani society and values and help build a social foundation for the development of a strong bilateral relationship between our two countries.

I wish Braden the best of luck as she studies in Oman this year. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Braden Muscarello for earning a Kennedy-Lugar YES Abroad scholarship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note that while I was in Washington for much of Friday, August 1, 2014, I was unable to vote on legislation considered that day due to previously scheduled events in the district.

If I had been able to vote that day, I would have voted as follows:

On the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 700, roll No. 474, I would have voted "no."

On consideration of H. Res. 700, a resolution to waive certain requirements under Clause 6(a) of House Rule XIII, roll No. 475, I would have voted "no."

On the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 710, roll No. 476, I would have voted "no."

On consideration of H. Res. 710, a resolution providing the rule for H.R. 5230 and H.R. 5272, roll No. 477, I would have voted "no."

On Passage of H.R. 5230, Supplemental Appropriations Related to the Humanitarian Crisis at the Southwest Border, roll No. 478, I would have voted "no."

On Passage of H.R. 5272, to prohibit certain actions with respect to deferred action for aliens not lawfully present in the United States, roll No. 479, I would have voted "no."

On Concurring to the Senate Amendments to H.J. Res. 76, Emergency Supplemental Funding to Israel for the Iron Dome Defense System, roll No. 480, I would have voted "yes."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,756,856,045,819.45. We've added \$7,129,978,996,906.37 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING MS. SUSAN HAMMER

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Susan Hammer and congratulate her on her Cornerstone of the Arts Award, a timely and well-deserved honor.

From the beginning of her career in public service, Ms. Hammer worked tirelessly to link San Jose's civic future to the continued growth and development of its arts and cultural insti-

tutions. Indeed, she entered public life in 1969 by founding a community art museum that became the San Jose Museum of Art. She was instrumental in saving the historic building now home to its administrative offices from destruction.

Ms. Hammer's unwavering support of the arts continued throughout her illustrious career. As the 62nd Mayor of San Jose, Ms. Hammer led the creation of San Jose's first cultural plan, which served as the blueprint for the evolution of the Office of Cultural Affairs and led to arts education reform. Ms. Hammer created San Jose's first cultural tourism program, worked to build The Tech as a museum of national stature, and fought to complete the Guadalupe River Park. Ms. Hammer made sure that The Rep got a permanent home in San Jose. Together with the San Jose State University President, Ms. Hammer developed the idea of creating a joint library and was part of a committee that raised \$16.5 million for the completion of San Jose's stunning Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

Ms. Hammer is a trailblazer when it comes to the development of San Jose area's thriving community and dynamic culture. As Mayor, she focused on affordable housing, child care, education, the arts, and the revitalization of the San Jose Downtown.

Ms. Hammer is truly the "cornerstone" of the San Jose arts community and sets the highest standard for public service. Unsurprisingly, in her retirement, Ms. Hammer continues to be civically involved and active in community and educational organizations.

I wish to congratulate Ms. Susan Hammer on her Cornerstone of the Arts Award and express my gratitude for her exceptional leadership and lasting impact on the San Jose art and cultural landscape.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL JOB  
CORPS ASSOCIATION'S 50TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and congratulating the National Job Corps Association on their 50th Anniversary. Over the course of 50 years, millions of at-risk youth have been forever changed by Job Corps' comprehensive residential, academic and career preparation programs.

In my hometown, the Flint Genesee Job Corps Center provides a vital service to our community by serving hundreds of disadvantaged youth between 16 and 24 years of age, inclusive, by providing high school diplomas and career technical education to young men and women.

In addition to academic and employment training, these Job Corps Centers throughout the country provide social skills training and other services to empower young men and women to obtain and hold a job, enroll in advanced training, attend college, or enter the Armed Forces to defend the interest of the United States around the world.

It is timely and appropriate that we join Flint and Genesee County in celebrating the National Job Corps Association and its accomplishments, including reducing the cycle of

poverty, strengthening our local community, and improving the quality of thousands of lives.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the National Job Corps Association, and the Flint Genesee Job Corps Center, for their unwavering commitment and service to our great country.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LEONARD PEEVY'S 60 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Mr. Leonard Peevy. Mr. Peevy has been a dedicated member of American Legion Post No. 79 for 60 years.

Leonard Peevy is an Alabama Army National Guard Veteran who has served our country through three tours. These tours took him to the Korean War and Berlin. He joined the American Legion after returning for war, and he has served the American Legion in numerous capacities. He has served on local, district and state levels. Mr. Peevy served as the state commander of the American Legion in 1993. He was also awarded a certificate from the national American Legion for his dedication over the past 60 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Leonard Peevy for his tireless dedication to serving our nation's Veterans. His service to our state and country is an inspiration.

#### CONGRATULATING CINCO RANCH'S ROBOTICS TEAM

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cinco Ranch High School's Robotics Team CRYptonite 624 and its robot "Sidewinder" for winning the 2014 Texas Robot Roundup Tournament. This is the third year in a row Cinco Ranch has won the highly competitive statewide contest that requires advanced scientific, technical, and engineering skill.

At the fourth annual Texas Robot Roundup in Austin, Team CRYptonite 624 designed and built a robot to throw a fitness ball over trusses and into goals. The strength of the robot's performance reflects their dedication to learning and innovation.

I am proud of the scientific and engineering ingenuity Team CRYptonite 624 demonstrated. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Cinco Ranch High School's Team CRYptonite 624 for winning its third consecutive Texas Robot Roundup Tournament.

#### RECOGNIZING REV. DR. ROOSEVELT AUSTIN, SR. FOR HIS EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

#### HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Austin, Sr., a spiritual pillar in the city of Saginaw, with more than 60 years of dedicated service to his community.

Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Austin served as Pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Saginaw for 44 years. He has also served as Interim Pastor for St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Saginaw, Foss Ave. Baptist Church in Flint and Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Flint.

Rev. Dr. Austin received his primary education in Opelousas, Louisiana. He went on to receive his Bachelor of Theology from McKinley Roosevelt College in Chicago, Illinois; a Master of Theology from Ohio Christian College in Columbus, Ohio; a Doctor of Divinity Degree from American Divinity School in Chicago, Illinois; and a Doctor of Humanities from Saginaw Valley State University.

Rev. Dr. Austin is a vital voice that has embraced our community through the spirit of service. He has served through many entities, some including Saginaw City Council, Opportunity Industrial Center, Pastors Concern for the Poor, Saginaw Public Schools, and as member of the Board of Directors for Citizens Bank.

Rev. Dr. Austin also holds the honor of Past President, Saginaw Valley District Congress of Christian Education; Past President, Michigan Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education; Seminar Leader, National Congress of Christian Education; and Moderator for the Saginaw Valley District Association.

Now retired, Dr. Austin enjoys spending time with his wife, Dr. Nurame Austin, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Austin for his strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our community.

#### HONORING KIMBERLY EVANS

#### HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Kimberly Evans, an outstanding community leader, public servant, and tireless advocate for military members, veterans, and their families in Ventura County. Kim Evans demonstrates remarkable service to our community as the Founder and Director of the Ventura County Military Collaborative, which fosters invaluable collaboration among government, non-profit, and community agencies, organizations and individuals to strengthen and promote the military network of care throughout the region.

Kim earned a Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University and is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Licensed Professional Clinic Counselor in

Ventura County. Additionally, Kim was trained at the National Center for PTSD and has been an Embedded Therapist for the Army National Guard and Director of Psychological Health, specializing in working with military members and their families.

Kim Evans has devoted over 14 years in service to our military community and is an acknowledged expert on the effects of military deployment on service members and their families. She has tirelessly dedicated her expertise to brief over 8,000 military personnel and family members on mental health issues, and train over 1,200 clinicians throughout the state of California on military culture and working with military members and their families.

As Director of the Ventura County Military Collaborative, her outstanding leadership has culminated in three annual Military and Veteran Expos, providing community, fellowship, food, and entertainment, along with free employment, legal, and benefits assistance, which serves to reduce unemployment and homelessness among veterans in our community. Furthermore, Kim has organized numerous community events serving military and veteran families, including Operation Snow Flake, an annual event bringing together Ventura County Military Collaborative members and local volunteers to provide a holiday celebration filled with presents, food, and special guests for military and veteran families in need.

Currently, Kim also works with the Ventura County Superior Court as the Veterans Court Liaison, training California police departments on how to work with veterans and how to create successful reintegration for returning law enforcement officers who have been mobilized for combat. Kim's committed involvement in Veterans Court has led directly to a program expansion of over 30% and now includes the Mentor Program, building relationships between veterans. Kim also developed a Veterans Legal Clinic to provide free legal information and advice.

For these reasons, it is my distinct honor to recognize and express my sincere appreciation to Kimberly Evans for her remarkable accomplishments and unwavering support and service to the military and veteran population of Ventura County. She is an exemplary citizen, and her tireless advocacy for current and former members of the United States Armed Forces has made an immeasurable impact upon our community.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN TRANSPARENCY ACT

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2014*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to empower governors and local elected officials to control whether or not the federal government can place unaccompanied minors, who have illegally entered the country, into their communities.

For the last several months, the United States' southern border with Mexico has been flooded by illegal immigrants, many of them whom are unaccompanied minors.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have been a leading voice in arguing for securing